Chapter 2.9.1 - Acarapisosis of Honey Bees

Specific Comments

Article 2.9.1.2 – Item (2): currently states: "acarapisosis should be notifiable in the whole country or zone/compartment and all clinical signs suggestive of acarapisosis should be subjected to field and laboratory investigations".

Article 2.9.1.2 – Item (2): recommend it be changed to: "acarapisosis is should be notifiable in the whole country or zone/compartment and all clinical signs suggestive of acarapisosis should be subjected to field and laboratory investigations".

Rationale: The use of the proposed text "should be" is ambiguous and we recommend that replacement with the word "is" clearly informs the reader that acarapisosis is a notifiable disease in the whole country or zone/compartment.

Article 2.9.1.6 Current proposed text reads:

Article 2.9.1.6.

Veterinary Administrations of *importing countries* should require:

for eggs, larvae and pupae of honey bees

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the products:

- 1) were sourced from an officially free country or zone/compartment; or
- 2) were examined by an official laboratory and declared free of all life stages of A. woodi; or
- 3) have originated from queens in a *quarantine station* and were examined microscopically and found free of all life stages of *A. woodi.*

Recommend the text:

Article 2.9.1.6.

Veterinary Administrations of *importing countries* should require:

for eggs, larvae and pupae of honey bees

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the products:

- 1) were sourced from an officially free country or zone/compartment; or
- 2) were examined by an official laboratory and declared free of all life stages of A. woodi; or
- have originated from queens in a quarantine station and were examined microscopically and found free of all stages of A.woodi adult bees from the source colony were examined microscopically to

assure freedom from acarapisosis at a 95% confidence level".

Rationale: the proposed wording is not clear as to what level of examination is being required.